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Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 22-26 September 2003

Executive Summary

Future Planning Calendar:

(U//~~ATUO~~) **28 October 2003:** Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Principals' meeting at EEOB in Washington, DC.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **3-5 December 2003:** Historical Review Panel: Next semi-annual meeting.

(U//~~ATUO~~) **31 December 2006:** The Automatic Declassification Date per Executive Order 12958, as amended.

Overview of IRR Activities Last Week:

(U//~~ATUO~~) **Agency Reduces Backlog in FOIA/PA Cases**

(U//~~ATUO~~) For the 6th straight year, the backlog of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) cases fell -- in FY 2003 by 7.5 percent. The CIA received 3136 FOIA and Privacy Act cases during the year, and closed 3251 cases -- thus, reducing its pending case load by 115 cases.

- *The Agency benefits from backlog reduction. Federal courts permit those agencies that reduce their backlogs to respond to FOIA litigation taskings in their normal processing queue. Agencies that fail to reduce their backlogs must respond to federal court taskings on a priority basis.* (b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) **EO-MDR Case Load Up -- Backlog Down**

(U//~~ATUO~~) In FY 2003, the Agency reduced its backlog of Mandatory Declassification Reviews (MDRs) under EO 12958 by 35.4%. The number of EO-MDR's received in FY 2003 totaled 871 cases -- a 25.7% increase over the number received last year. (b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) **Appeals Branch Exceeds Backlog Reduction Goal**

(U//~~ATUO~~) The Appeals & Litigation Branch (Public Information Programs Division - PIPD) reduced its backlog of FOIA, Privacy, and Executive Order appeals by 10.8% in FY 2003 (reducing the backlog from 294 cases to 262). Thus, it exceeded its 5% goal, set at the beginning of the year. (b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) **CDC Meets FY 2003 Goals and NARA Delivery Deadline**

(U//~~ATUO~~) The CIA Declassification Center (CDC) achieved its FY 2003 goals by releasing 5 million pages and reviewing 15 million pages. On 30 September, the CDC completed its FY 2003 CREST (CIA Records Search Tool) delivery to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA-College Park). The delivery consisted of approximately 110,000 documents and 1.5 million pages. (b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) **FOIA Requests**

(U//~~ATUO~~) **Multiple Cases - Haralson**

(U//~~ATUO~~) A reporter from *USA Today* seeks records on over 40 American business leaders from several companies, including Scott Paper Company, Beatrice Foods, The Singer Corporation, Time Inc., and Braniff International, "to confirm or contradict allegations of investigations and/or surveillance of prominent members of the business community by government agencies."

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[REDACTED]

(b)(3)
(b)(5)**(U//~~ATUO~~) Multiple Cases - Kirnendall**

(U//~~ATUO~~) An Associate Professor of History at Texas A&M University sent in eight requests asking for CIA records on various Chilean and Brazilian educators, writers and government officials.

(b)(3)
(b)(5)**(U//~~ATUO~~) CIA Declassification Center****(U//~~ATUO~~) "CIA Records Search Tool" - Update**

(U//~~ATUO~~) Effective 30 September 2003, the "CIA Records Search Tool" (CREST database) at National Archives, College Park, contains approximately 545,000 documents and 8.7 million pages. With its newly integrated configuration, users now can remain at any one of four workstations (4 printers) and conduct a full search across all CREST products. [REDACTED]

(b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) Overcoming NARA's Connectivity Hurdles

(U//~~ATUO~~) A warning from National Archives officials to expect a 9-month construction delay, and higher costs, necessitated the reaching of a new agreement for establishing connectivity between [REDACTED] NARA. There will now be an immediate purchase and storage of materials to await the start of construction -- now scheduled to begin on 2 January 2004. Connectivity is anticipated in March 2004. [REDACTED]

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(U//~~ATUO~~) From the Archives**(U//~~ATUO~~) Loose Lips**

(U//~~ATUO~~) An article from the 2 July 1969 *Weekly Review*, reporting on Communist intelligence operations in South Vietnam, notes that several networks were uncovered in the "past several months." The article states, "The Communists were able to obtain critical information about Tan Son Nhut Air Base, primarily through an agent who worked in the Joint Defense Operations Center (JDOC) on the base. This agent, an officer in the Regional Forces, furnished the enemy with information on the type, number, and location of aircraft assigned to Tan Son Nhut, on the locations and strengths of Allied units operating in and around the air base, and on the defenses of this large complex. The three-man Communist cell that operated at Tan Son Nhut has been active only since June 1968. Other Communist cells, as yet undetected, are believed to be operating in Ton Son Nhut. Another intelligence network in Saigon was able to provide the Communists with access to the thinking of high-level government officials and political leaders. Since April, over 20 people have been arrested." Those arrested, reportedly, were relaying to the Communists the content of their conversations with government and religious leaders.

- *The Government of South Vietnam was riddled with Communist agents, those with family members on different sides, and those with flexible loyalties. This article highlights the complexity of the problem, and the wide access to military and political information available to the Communists.* [REDACTED]

(b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) Young Employees and Agency Security~~ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY~~

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(U//~~ATUO~~) The Acting Director of Personnel wrote a message to DCI Dulles in August 1959 responding to the DCI's concerns over the Agency's employment of persons under 21 years of age. "It is understood that you are concerned about Agency security as it may be particularly endangered by the immaturity and indiscretion of very young employees or by their susceptibility to the tactics of hostile intelligence effort." He reported the number of employees falling into that age group, and explained that most were assigned to clerical-type positions. Moreover, he added, "special investigation and clearance procedures have been practiced" in regard to this age group. Those judged to be relatively more mature are assigned to the more sensitive areas, while those individuals judged to be a bit less so, are assigned to less sensitive areas. Some were assigned to the DDP (Plans, DO predecessor), but none were sent overseas. As a result, "The experience of the Office of Security with these young employees has been that, except for minor matters, they cause relatively little trouble in the Agency and their record of security indiscretions is no worse than that of employees in older age groups. They appear less prone to commit physical security violations such as leaving classified material exposed or safes open. Experience also indicates that relatively little attention has been paid to them by opposition intelligence...." [REDACTED]

(b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) Trust No One

(U//~~ATUO~~) A September 1951 *Summary of Indications* report, prepared by the Watch Committee of the Intelligence Advisory Group, includes this item: "Further reports indicate that Soviet women are continuing to arrive in Germany aboard leave trains and in special shipments and that the movement has been under way since July. The total numbers have not been fully established but have been estimated [to be at] least 5,000. While the evidence is not yet clear as to what work these women are to do, it appears they are to replace certain German employees in Soviet offices, barracks, and messes in East Germany. This program, the full scale of which is not yet determined, represents a further tightening of the already stringent Soviet security measures prevalent in Germany."

- *This is just another one of the many extraordinary tactics the Soviets employed in their efforts to maintain control and security at their facilities abroad.* [REDACTED]

(b)(3)

(U//~~ATUO~~) Paramilitary Sports Associations

(U//~~ATUO~~) (DO report on Rumania Circa 1950) The sports associations established by Rumania's General Confederation of Labor, in actual fact, are paramilitary organizations. All students must belong to one of these associations in order to receive diplomas or other recognition of their work. Such students must achieve the title "complete athlete," indicating their proficiency in five sports, including shooting, the throwing of hand grenades, and swimming. [REDACTED]

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